

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Growth Grants Available In Northwest Michigan

TRAVERSE CITY, MI—Networks Northwest is accepting applications for 2017 - 2018 Community Growth Grants. This year's grants will focus on Community Dialogue Initiatives. Technical assistance grants of up to \$5,000 will be made available on a competitive basis to city, village, township, and county governments from the ten-county region.

The grant program is intended to strengthen our region's capacity to develop and implement economic strategies by building connections between governments and other stakeholders; raising awareness of community needs and preferences; and providing opportunities for community input. To that end, technical assistance grants will be used to facilitate community-wide discussions on high-priority issues and to build relationships between governments, across sectors, and members of the public.

Successful Community Dialogue projects will create the conditions for sustainable and efficient growth and development by bringing partners together to create and work towards shared local values and community goals, ultimately creating a more robust and sustainable economy.

Grant applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 1, 2017. Grant application instructions are available at, networksnorthwest.org/rfp.

Michigan's "Regional Prosperity Initiative (RPI)," as initiated by Governor Snyder and signed into law encourages local private, public, and non-profit partners to identify regionally aligned growth and investment strategies for Lansing to support, not the other way around. The ultimate goal of the RPI is to create prosperity by making this region an even better place to live, work and play.

(MORE)

Networks Northwest has identified available funding through the RPI for the ten-county region of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford, and will provide direct technical support to communities for leadership, collaboration, local decision-making and action-oriented projects that will enhance our communities' sense of place and build the foundation for a stronger regional economy.

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Dan Boss at dan.boss@networksnorthwest.org and stating preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5047. Check our online Media Room at: networksnorthwest.org/media

Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, Small Business Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our web site, networksnorthwest.org

Networks Northwest's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.